

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City Council Chambers, 4:00 P. M.
Tuesday, March 9, 1965

Council met in regular session. Present on roll call 8: Bott, Cvitanich, Finnigan, Haley, Herrmann, Johnson, Price and Mayor Tollefson. Absent 1, Murtland.

Mrs. Price moved that the minutes of the meeting of February 23, 1965 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Dr. Herrmann. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mayor Tollefson asked that Mr. Murtland be excused.

Mrs. Price moved that Mr. Murtland be excused. Seconded by Mr. Haley. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

HEARINGS & APPEALS:

a. This is the date set for hearing on the petition submitted by Arthur C. Yeager for the rezoning of the property located at the N. E. corner of South 74th St. and South Wapato Street from the "R-2" District to an "R-4-L" and an "R-3-PRD" District.

No one appearing and no protests being made, Mrs. Price moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission and that an ordinance be drafted approving the rezone. Seconded by Mr. Haley. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

b. The City Planning Commission at its meeting of Feb. 15, 1965 recommended denial of the petition submitted by Walter C. Witte of the Mall Corporation for rezoning of property located at the S. W. corner of So. 45th and Cedar from an "R-3" to an "R-4" District.

Mr. Haley moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission to deny the petition of Walter C. Witte of the Mall Corporation for an "R-4" District. Seconded by Mr. Finnigan. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 18214

Approving the claim of David G. Selby in the amount of \$2,000.

Mr. Bott moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mrs. Price.

Mr. Finnigan asked if there was a regulation in regard to what distance a spectator should remain from the fire fighting equipment or building.

Mr. Rowlands stated there is no specific distance spelled out. He said it is a matter of using judgement as to how far back the spectators should remain. He added, in the future the areas will be roped off at a reasonably safe distance from the fire and the fire fighting equipment.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Murtland.

Resolution No. 18215

Authorizing the City Manager to execute and file an application with the Housing and Home Finance Agency to aid in financing the purchase of 34 new 43-passenger diesel transit buses.

Mr. Cvitanich moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Finnigan.

Mr. Rowlands explained that the City is asking for this grant because there are 83 buses between 16 and 18 years old which eventually will have to be replaced. He said the proposed application for \$611,000 for Federal funds will go toward the purchase of 34 new diesel buses. This will commit the City to put up more than \$300,000 in local matching funds toward the buses. He said he would recommend that the Council borrow the money from the City's L I D Guaranty Fund under a seven-year repayment program. He was hopeful, however, that a transit tax will materialize following favorable legislative action in the forthcoming special session, if not in the present session. A 75¢ monthly charge on utility bills would bring in enough to meet the current level of operating losses, pay off existing loans and provide \$50,000 per year for capital outlay.

Mr. Rowlands continued, if the transit tax does not materialize, he hoped that the Legislature would provide the City with some other financial relief, or he would suggest going to the City voters with a ballot proposition for matching funds. The approval of the application for Federal funds will commit the City to raise the one-third matching funds, but the Council should not make the application on the basis that it may be withdrawn later.

Mr. Finnigan asked if this grant were allowed, is there a time limit as to when these funds have to be used.

Mr. Rowlands said if the grant is approved it would require approximately six to eight months from the time the buses are ordered for delivery. This Resolution is assuring that the City's one-third share is available, when their two-thirds share is available.

Mr. Gaisford, Finance Director stated, repayment of the proposed \$300,000 loan from the L I D Guaranty fund would require approximately \$48,000 per year for seven years.

Mr. Johnson stated the Transit System does need new buses but a commitment at this time would be somewhat risky as it is not assured the

system will continue to operate. He felt there should be assistance, either from the legislature or from a bond issue to continue the operation.

Dr. Herrmann thought the Council would be short-sighted if it did not apply for Federal aid. He said the bus system is operated on the premise that the transit system is essential, and to operate, equipment is essential.

Mr. Haley said if the City does not get money from somewhere, either by legislation or a bond issue or some means to acquire additional revenue for the transit system, the City may end up with buses and not be able to operate them. He thought perhaps they should delay action on the Resolution until they know the outcome by the legislature before they proceed with this application for a grant.

Mr. Bott agreed with Mr. Haley that they should wait to see what the legislature does as the City does not have the funds to proceed.

Mr. Finnigan said the need for new buses is evident, but facts have to be faced, "where is the money coming from for the City's share." He added, he would vote on an optional basis only for the application until such time as the City is in a position to take advantage of the grant.

Mr. Rowlands said he would be willing to postpone action on the Resolution for a week or two to see what develops at the legislature.

Mr. Doug Hendry, Supt. of the Transit System stated, the buses travel 10,000 miles per day in Tacoma with approximately 30,000 passengers using the service. Forty buses are used daily and 1/6th of the passengers are school children. He added, if the City did not supply buses, the school district would have to go into the bus service with 40 buses to accommodate the students.

Mrs. Price thought the Council should defer action on the Resolution until the legislature acts on the proposed Transit bill. If it passes they can proceed as it seems like a good proposal, but if not the Council may as well forget about the bus system.

Mayor Tollefson stated, in his opinion the City has no choice but to keep the bus system operating. He said if the City is to keep the system operating it has no alternative but to purchase new buses. We need new buses and now is the time to purchase them at one-third of what it would otherwise cost the City. The City could buy 34 buses for \$300,000 instead of \$900,000 at full cost. He thought the Council should pass the Resolution on the premise that the City of Tacoma will operate a bus system which would be for the best interests of the community. He said if the legislature votes the bill down they should buy the buses regardless as they cannot operate a bus system without adequate buses. If it means that we have to cut down at budget time on Parks, Playgrounds, Libraries, Public Works, etc. to repay the L I D Guaranty fund to have a bus system, we are going to have to do it. If we take advantage of this grant from the Government we will be getting 34 buses instead of 11 buses.

Mr. Cvitanich asked if a transit tax would mean lower fares or better service.

Mr. Rowlands replied the tax would enable the Council to consider reducing the fares to five tokens for a dollar and a 15¢ fare for school children.

Mr. Bott asked if the postponement would hurt Tacoma's chances in getting the grant.

Mr. Rowlands replied he did not think the postponement would seriously jeopardize changes for federal matching funds, although many other cities have already applied.

Mr. Bott moved to postpone the Resolution for one week. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Roll call was taken on the motion, resulting as follows: Ayes 7; Nays 2, Dr. Herrmann and Mayor Tollefson. Absent 1, Mr. Murtland. Motion carried.

Mayor Tollefson asked to be excused from the meeting.

Dr. Herrmann moved to excuse Mayor Tollefson. Seconded by Mr. Haley. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Herrmann assumed the Chair.

Resolution No. 18216

Fixing Tuesday March 23, 1965 at 4:00 P. M. as the date for hearing on the petition submitted by Willbridge Co. for the rezoning of property located on the southeast corner of So. 15th and Union Avenue.

Mr. Cvitanich moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Finnigan.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Murtland and Mayor Tollefson.

Resolution No. 18217

Fixing Tuesday March 23, 1965 at 4:00 P. M. as the date for hearing on rezoning of property on the west side of Cedar St. between So. 45th and 47th Sts. (petition of Planning Commission)

Mr. Finnigan moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Murtland and Mayor Tollefson.

Resolution No. 18218

Fixing Monday April 12, 1965 at 4:00 P. M. as the date for hearing on L I D 6851 for street lighting at intersections of Asotin, Cushman, Ainsworth, Sheridan on L from So. 72nd to So. 80th Sts.

Mr. Bott moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 6; Nays 0; Absent 3, Murtland and Mayor Tollefson. Haley (temporarily)

Resolution No. 18219

Tentative approval of the preliminary plat of Park Lane property between G St. extended and Tacoma Ave. extended from So. 94th to So. 96th St. (petition of Fred T. Lawrence)

Mrs. Price moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Johnson.

The Resolution FAILED by voice vote.
Ayes 4; Nays 2, Bott and Cvitanich; Absent 3, Murtland, Mayor Tollefson and Haley (temporarily)

Mrs. Price moved to suspend the rules to reconsider Resolution No. 18219. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mrs. Price moved to adopt Resolution No. 18219. Seconded by Mr. Haley.

Roll call was taken, resulting as follows:

Ayes 4; Nays 3, Bott, Cvitanich and Finnigan. Absent 2; Murtland and Mayor Tollefson.

Resolution No. 18220

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to deliver a local improvement deed to Mike M. Stray and Victoria S. Stray upon payment of the sum of \$400. 00 for property located at Ea. 37th and Ea. E Streets.

Mr. Cvitanich moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Finnigan.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Murtland and Mayor Tollefson.

Resolution No. 18221

Awarding contract to Titus Motor Co. on its bid of \$6, 507. 06 plus tax for the furnishing of three 4-door 1965 automobiles and to Winthrop Motor Co. on its bid for ten Police Cars less trade-in for the amount of \$20, 228. 32 plus tax.

Mr. Cvitanich moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Haley.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Murtland and Mayor Tollefson.

Resolution No. 18222

Accepting the sealed bid for the purchase of real property situated within the Center St. Urban Renewal project No. Wash. R-1 from the American Bldg. Maintenance Industries for the amount of \$10,000.

Mr. Haley moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Finnigan.

The Resolution was passed by voice vote.
Ayes 6; Nays 1, Cvitanich; Absent 2, Murtland and Mayor Tollefson.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 17785

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the official code by adding a new section 13.06.065-41 to include property on the S. E. corner of Jackson Ave. & Olympic Blvd. in an "R-4-L" District. (petition of S. L. Rowland Construction Co.)

The Ordinance was placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 17786

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the official code relative to an Ordinance Text Change regarding "Deep Lots."

The Ordinance was placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 17782

Authorizing the condemnation of property located in the vicinity of So. 74th St. between So. Tacoma Way and Orchard St. for the purpose of constructing an electrical distribution system and repealing Ordinance No. 17429 passed on August 27, 1963.

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Murtland and Mayor Tollefson.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 17783

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the official code by adding a new section 13.06.111 to include property located on the west side of Sprague Ave. between So. 70th & So. 74th Sts. in an "R-5-PRD" District. (petition of Hillcrest Investment Co.)

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Murtland and Mayor Tollefson.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 17784

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the official code by adding a new section 13.06.160-10 & 170-3 to include property between So. 42nd & 48th extended approximately 500 feet East of Orchard in an "M-1" and "M-2" District. (petition of Lundberg Bros.)

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 6; Nays 1, Haley; Absent 2, Murtland and Mayor Tollefson.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Director of Utilities and Director of Public Works present the following Assessment rolls for hearing:

- a. L I D 5389 for water mains and fire hydrants in So. 49th from Stevens to Gove and nearby streets.
- b. L I D 5391 for water mains in Proctor from So. 29th to So. 30th Sts.
- c. L I D 6818 for street lights on So. 50th to 56th St. from M. to Wilkesson St.
- d. L I D 6825 for street lights on G from McGarver to No. 10th and No. 39th from Gove to Orchard.

Mr. Haley moved that Monday, April 12, 1965 at 4:00 P. M. be set as the date for hearing on the assessment rolls for L I D 5389, 5391, 6818 and 6825. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK:

- a. Tacoma Retirement System report for the month of Feb 1965.
- b. City Planning Dept. report for the month of Feb. 1965.
- c. Report from the Traffic Division and Tacoma Police Dept. for the month of January 1965.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Finnigan asked Mr. Rowlands to check and see what time the street lights are turned on in the evenings. He said he has noticed that it is dark for a considerable time in the downtown area before the lights are turned on. He suggested the matter be investigated and possibly that the lights be turned on a little earlier.

Mr. Rowlands said he would investigate and rectify the situation.

Deputy Mayor Herrmann read a letter from the Park Board Commissioners expressing appreciation for the legal service rendered by Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, in the tide lands matter.

Mr. Joseph Fortier, Business Representative of the Municipal Civil Service League, stated the League was approached concerning the Transit bill. He stated a vote was taken on the issue and it was decided that the League would remain neutral and not take a stand on the issue.

Mr. Rowlands said they are all City employees and should realize the impact the failure of this bill will have on all departments.

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion duly seconded and passed, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 P. M.



Mayor of the City Council

Attest:


City Clerk